

Madera Climate Action Plan



Welcome to the City of Madera Climate Action Plan webpage!

The City of Madera is developing a Climate Action Plan that will identify the sources and amount of greenhouse gas emissions generated within the community and develop strategies to reduce them in the future. This webpage will serve as the communications hub for issues and events related to the Climate Action Plan. We invite you to become involved in the process, sign-up for e-news updates, and to check back in for regular updates to the page.

Background

In 2009, Madera completed a comprehensive update to its General Plan, which includes a number of goals, policies and action items aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions from both City operations and the community as a whole. Two specific action items, CON-36.1 and CON-36.2, from the General Plan require the preparation of a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and climate action plan. The City is developing the Climate Action Plan, including a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, to implement these action items.

Planning Process and Schedule

Development of the Climate Action Plan involves the following five steps, which are shown with the preliminary project schedule:

1. Prepare a greenhouse gas emissions inventory: August 2014
2. Identify preliminary greenhouse gas reduction targets: August 2014
3. Identify and evaluate policies and actions to meet the targets: September 2014 – February 2015
4. Gather input from the community (ongoing) and public workshop: February 2015
5. Develop the Climate Action Plan: February – May 2015

We are early in this process and will update this page as we identify specific dates for project milestones and the community workshop. Please check back periodically to view any changes or updates to this schedule and click [here](#) to sign up for our e-news list to receive important announcements.

Events & Activities

Take Our Survey

Click [here](#) to complete our short survey on potential ways to reduce greenhouse gases within the community. The results of this survey will directly influence the Climate Action Plan that will be created.

Sign Up for E-News

Click [here](#) to join our e-News list to receive periodic announcements about upcoming workshops and updates regarding the Climate Action Plan development process.

Calculate Your Own Carbon Footprint

Click [here](#) to calculate your personal or family's greenhouse gas emissions and explore the impact of taking various actions to reduce your emissions.





Frequently Asked Questions

What is a greenhouse gas emissions inventory?

A [greenhouse gas emissions inventory](#) allows a city or community to understand the level of greenhouse gases they emit, where these emissions come from, and how they are projected to increase over time. Policy makers use inventories to establish a baseline for tracking emission trends, developing mitigation strategies and policies, and assessing progress. An inventory is usually the first step taken by cities that want to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions as they establish a basis for developing a climate action plan.

What is a climate action plan?

A [climate action plan](#) is a strategic framework for measuring, planning, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Local governments design and utilize climate action plans as customized road maps for making informed decisions and understanding where and how to achieve the largest and most cost-effective emissions reductions, while simultaneously meeting other municipal and community goals. Climate action plans generally include an inventory of existing and projected greenhouse gas emissions, a reduction goal or target, measures or actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, an analysis of each measure's reduction potential and cost/savings, and an implementation and monitoring strategy that identifies required resources and funding mechanisms.

What are the benefits of a Climate Action Plan?

In addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, implementation of a climate action plan will help achieve multiple community goals such as [lowering energy costs](#), reducing air and water pollution, downtown revitalization, supporting local economic development, and improving public health and quality of life. A climate action plan can also support the streamlining of the environmental review process for future projects within the cities in accordance with [State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15152 and 15183.5](#), which can save time and money for these projects.

